

optical network unit and an optical terminal which efficiently control the data receiving and dechurning processes in a passive optical network. churning parameter memory subsystem, a first memory bank stores churning parameters that are currently used, while a second memory bank stores updates made to the churning parameters. Under the control of the churning parameter memory subsystem, those first and second memory banks change their roles with each other at a churning key updating time point. A data dechurning unit receives a data stream consisting of a plurality of frames and dechurns the information contained in the data stream, according to the stored churning parameters. When an update is done to the parameters in a certain frame, the data dechurning unit makes the update effective at the next frame, thus starting data dechurning operations from the next frame.

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